

## Validation of *Distatrix pandora* Grinter, 2009 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae, Microgastrinae)

Christopher C. Grinter<sup>1</sup>, James B. Whitfield<sup>2</sup>

**1** Collection Manager, Entomology, California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, 55 Music Concourse Drive, San Francisco, CA 94118, USA **2** Professor, Department of Entomology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 505 S. Goodwin Ave, Urbana, IL 61801, USA

Corresponding author: James B. Whitfield ([jwhitfe@life.illinois.edu](mailto:jwhitfe@life.illinois.edu))

---

Academic editor: Gavin Broad | Received 1 February 2019 | Accepted 12 February 2019 | Published 25 February 2019

---

<http://zoobank.org/99882199-58CE-4367-B5E0-B3FB8546752E>

---

**Citation:** Grinter CC, Whitfield JB (2019) Validation of *Distatrix pandora* Grinter, 2009 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae, Microgastrinae). Journal of Hymenoptera Research 68: 17–18. <https://doi.org/10.3897/jhr.68.33598>

---

Grinter et al. (2009) described six new Neotropical species of *Distatrix* Mason (Hymenoptera: Braconidae, Microgastrinae), including *D. pandora* Grinter, which was described as a parasitoid reared from *Eois nympha* and related caterpillars (Geometridae) feeding on *Piper cenocladium* (Piperaceae) in Central America. In the “Material examined” section of the paper, the depositories of the topotypic portion of the type series (including the holotype) were provided, but the precise depository location of the holotype was inadvertently left unspecified. As such, under Article 16.4.2 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature, the name *Distatrix pandora* can be considered unavailable. The purpose of this note is to correct the oversight in Grinter et al. (2009) – the holotype depository is provided below – and to make the name *D. pandora* formally available.

### *Distatrix pandora* Grinter, sp. n.

*Distatrix pandora* Grinter, 2009 (Grinter et al. 2009: 13–15; figs. 14–19, 23, 27, 28, 32, 34).

Unavailable name.

**Material examined.** Holotype female: PANAMA: Barro Colorado Island. 9°09'N, 90°51'W, artificial island made up of 15 km<sup>2</sup> of lowland moist forest located in the



Panama Canal (Gatun Lake), 2003. Holotype deposited in **MIUP** (Museo de Invertebrados Graham Bell Fairchild, Universidad de Panamá). Paratypes: 9 females, 10 males, similar data except emergence and pupation dates. 9 females, 10 males, similar data except 2004. 1 female, similar data except 11 June 2001. 1 male, 1 female, similar data except 22 July 2003. 3 females, 3 males, similar data except 23 July 2003. 1 female, similar data except 25 June 2005. (MIUP, INHS and CAS collections). 3 females, 7 males: COSTA RICA: Heredia Prov., La Selva Biological Reserve, located at 100m on the Caribbean slope, 10°26'N 83°59'W (Hartshorn and Hammel 1994, <http://www.ots.duke.edu/en/laselva/intro.shtml>). 1 male, ECUADOR: Napo Prov., Yanayacu Biol. Station 80% primary forest, montane wet forest at 2100m 0°42'01.33"S, 77°44'00.00"W, 16 March 2002. 1 male, similar data except 3 June 2001.

**Hosts.** (Fig. 14) Single holotype female reared from *Eois nymphea* (Geometridae) feeding on *Piper cenocladum* C. DC. (Piperaceae). All other host data from Costa Rica and Panama similar except locality, pupation and eclosion times. Two male specimens from Ecuador reared from an undetermined Geometridae.

**Diagnosis.** This species is almost identical to *Distatrix teapae* (Nixon), both in morphology and coloration, sharing with it and *D. solanae* Whitfield, *D. xanadon*, *pitillaensis* and *D. belliger* (Wilkinson) the enlarged eyes (females only at least in *D. pandora*). With *D. teapae* and at least *D. maia* (Nixon), *D. formosus* (Wesmael), *D. loretta*, *xanadon*, *vigilis*, *pitillaensis* (but not *D. belliger*), it shares a modified distal front tarsomere, which is excavated apically on the ventral side and bears a strongly curved modified spine.

This new species differs from *D. teapae* in having an overall smaller body size, darker coloration. In addition, the hypopygium of the new species appears to be wider medially, more so than immediately anteriad sternum (in *D. teapae* the hypopygium gradually tapers towards anterior apex (Fig. 21)). The new species also is conspicuously setiferous along entire width of ventral sclera, whereas in *D. teapae* the setae are constricted to the ventral third of specimen.

The distances between the ocellus and eye margins, as well as the flagellomere distances are slightly larger by about half than that of *D. teapae*. *D. pandora* also shares with at least herein described species, a very large lateral metapleural pit, which appears to be reduced in *D. teapae* (Fig. 25). Mesopleural sternaulus is also nearly absent in *D. teapae*. Metasomal tergum II with median area defined by grooves diverging at an angle roughly 90°, whereas in *D. teapae* the angle is greater than 120° (Fig. 20).

*D. pandora* appears to be a specialist on *Eois* caterpillars, however specific level interactions are undetermined.

## References

- Grinter C, Whitfield JB, Connahs H, Dyer LA, Hallwachs W, Janzen DH (2009) A key to Neotropical *Distatrix* Mason (Hymenoptera: Braconidae), with descriptions of six new reared species. Journal of Insect Science 9(25): 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.1673/031.009.2901>